

MOSCOW  
CIA

The CIA's Latin American operations will be studied at the 55th annual Borah Symposium on War and Peace scheduled for March 26-27 at the University of Idaho in Moscow.

Ralph McGehee, former case officer on covert operations who left the agency after 25 years, will be a featured speaker.

Former CIA director William Colby and Larry Birns, editor of a bi-weekly publication on Latin America, also will speak.

McGehee said he left the CIA after becoming disillusioned with the agency. He said his decision was largely based on his last four years with the organization, when he had access to almost all information about its worldwide intelligence and covert operations.

McGehee, who had assignments in Japan, Thailand and Vietnam, said he decided the CIA is primarily a covert arm of the presidency. In that capacity, McGehee said the CIA generates "intelligence" operations in foreign countries to overthrow or support a government.

Symposium officials say Birns' publication, "Washington Report on the Hemisphere," is often used as a source on Latin America.

The annual symposium brings American and foreign government officials, diplomats, scientists and political analysts to Moscow to examine causes of war and solutions for peace.